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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

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Please cancel the heading "DESCRIPTION," in line 1 on page 1 of the specification.

Please insert the heading -- BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION --, in line 4 on page 1 of the specification.

Please replace the heading "Technical Field," with --1. Field of the Invention-- in line 5 on page 1 of the specification.

Please replace the heading "Background Art," with --2. Description of the Related Art-- in line 21 on page 1 of the specification.

Please replace the heading "Disclosure of Invention," with --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION-- in line 29 on page 2 of the specification.

Please replace the heading "Brief Description of Drawings," with --BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS-- in line 27on page 5 of the specification.

Please delete paragraph [0003] and replace the following therefor:

[0003] Here, since the above-mentioned sales license is generated by the server device of the service provider, the information inside the license such as the content key and the usage condition is set by the service provider. Meanwhile, because the service provider needs to use the content key that was made by the content provider in the encryption processing performed on the content, the content key can be considered as the information that can be substantially controlled by the content provider. In addition, by means of the method as disclosed in <u>Japanese Application Patent Publication No. 8-329011</u>   ~~a patent reference 1~~, even though the content provider controls the content key, the service provider can edit the content received from the content provider and distribute the edited, encrypted content to the terminal device of the end user.

~~Patent Reference 1: Japanese Application Patent Publication No. 8-329011~~

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2

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Please delete paragraph [0013] and replace the following therefor:

[0013] [FIG. 1] FIG. 1 is a schematic diagram showing an entire structure of a B2B2C system of the present embodiment.

[FIG. 2] FIG. 2 is a diagram showing a system structure of a content provider shown in FIG. 1.

[FIG. 3] FIG. 3 is a diagram showing a system structure of a service provider shown in FIG. 1.

[FIG. 4] FIG. 4 is a diagram showing a module structure of an original license generation tool shown in FIG. 2.

[FIG. 5] FIG. 5 is a diagram showing a module structure of a content encryption tool shown in FIG. 2.

[FIG. 6] FIG. 6 is a diagram showing a module structure of a CP license contract server shown in FIG. 2.

[FIG. 7] FIG. 7 is a diagram showing a table structure of a contract DB (Database) shown in FIG. 6.

[FIG. 8] FIG. 8 is a diagram showing a module structure of a CP license management server shown in FIG. 2.

[FIG. 9] FIG. 9 is a diagram showing a table structure of a user DB shown in FIG. 8.

[FIG. 10] FIG. 10 is a diagram showing a table structure of a license DB shown in FIG. 8.

[FIG. 11] FIG. 11 is a diagram showing a module structure of a CP membership management server shown in FIG. 2.

[FIG. 12] FIG. 12 is a diagram showing a table structure of a membership DB shown in FIG. 11.

[FIG. 13] FIG. 13 is a diagram showing a module structure of a CP content management server shown in FIG. 2.

[FIG. 14] FIG. 14 is a diagram showing a table structure of a content DB shown in FIG. 13.

[FIG. 15] FIG. 15 is a diagram showing a module structure of a sales license generation tool shown in FIG. 3.

[FIG. 16] FIG. 16 is a diagram showing a module structure of an SP terminal

3

application program shown in FIG. 3.

[FIG. 17] FIG. 17 is diagram showing a module structure of an SP license sales server shown in FIG. 3.

[FIG. 18] FIG. 18 is a diagram showing a table structure of a sales DB shown in FIG. 17.

[FIG. 19] FIG. 19 is a diagram showing a module structure of an SP license management server shown in FIG. 3.

[FIG. 20] FIG. 20 is a diagram showing a table structure of a license DB shown in FIG. 19.

[FIG. 21] FIG. 21 is a diagram showing a table structure of a user DB shown in FIG. 19.

[FIG. 22] FIG. 22 is a diagram showing a module structure of an SP membership management server shown in FIG. 3.

[FIG. 23] FIG. 23 is a diagram showing a table structure of a membership DB shown in FIG. 22.

[FIG. 24] FIG. 24 is a diagram showing a module structure of an SP content distribution server shown in FIG. 3.

[FIG. 25] FIG. 25 is a diagram showing a table structure of a content DB shown in FIG. 24.

[FIG. 26] FIG. 26 is a sequence diagram for content encryption processing performed by the content encryption tool shown in FIG. 5.

[FIG. 27] FIG. 27 is a sequence diagram for original license generation processing performed by the original license generation tool shown in FIG. 4.

[FIG. 28] FIG. 28 shows an entry screen of a user entry I/F (Interface) of the original license generation tool shown in FIG. 4.

[FIG. 29] FIG. 29 is a diagram showing a data structure of an original license.

[FIG. 30] FIG. 30 is a sequence diagram for a communication procedure of service sign-up processing performed between the service provider and the content provider.

[FIG. 31] FIG. 31 is a sequence diagram for license contract processing.

[FIG. 32] FIG. 32 is a sequence diagram for original license obtainment processing.

[FIG. 33] FIG. 33 is a diagram showing a data structure of the original license after the

license processing shown in FIG. 32 was performed.

[FIG. 34] FIG. 34 is a sequence diagram for encrypted content obtainment processing.

[FIG. 35] FIG. 35 is a sequence diagram for original license information reference processing.

[FIG. 36] FIG. 36 is a diagram showing a data structure of original license information.

[FIG. 37] FIG. 37 shows an entry screen of the sales license generation tool shown in FIG. 2.

[FIG. 38] FIG. 38 is a sequence diagram for sales license generation processing.

[FIG. 39] FIG. 39 is a diagram showing a screen in which an edit condition is inputted in the entry screen of the sales license generation tool shown in FIG. 2.

[FIG. 40] FIG. 40 is a diagram showing a data structure of a sales license (having no content key).

[FIG. 41] FIG. 41 is a diagram showing a data structure of a sales license (having a content key).

[FIG. 42] FIG. 42 is a diagram showing timing in comparing the usage condition and the edit condition.

[FIG. 43] FIG. 43 is a diagram showing a case where the timing in comparing the usage condition and the edit condition is when the sales license is issued.

[FIG. 44] FIG. 44 is a diagram showing a case where the timing in comparing the usage condition and the edit condition is when the sales license is received.

[FIG. 45] FIG. 45 is a diagram showing a case where the timing in comparing the usage condition and the edit condition is when the content is used.

[FIG. 46] FIG. 46 is a diagram showing an example of a case where the number of sales licenses is limited in accordance with the edit result of the sales license.

[FIG. 47] FIG. 47 is a diagram showing a data flow of a case where comparison-judgment processing is performed on the edit condition by both the SP and the EU.

[FIG. 48] FIG. 48 is a block diagram showing a structure of a terminal device of the end user.

[FIG. 49] FIG. 49 is a diagram showing timing in comparing the usage condition and the edit condition.

5

Please replace the heading "Best Mode for Carrying Out the Invention," with --DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION-- in line 2on page 12 of the specification.

Please delete paragraph [0025] and replace the following therefor:

[0025]   It should be noted that an example of a data structure of the above-mentioned sales license will be explained in detail later on, with reference to the ~~drawing~~drawings.

Please delete paragraph [0077] and replace the following therefor:

[0077]   (Case Where Edit Condition and Sales Condition are Tied)

In the above embodiment, the sales license is created on the basis of the edit condition, and the sale of the license is only limited under the common sales condition that all the sales licenses have to follow regardless of the edit condition. However, the present invention is not limited to this. FIG. 46 is a diagram showing an example of a case where the number of sales licenses is limited in accordance with the edit result of the sales license. As shown in this diagram, the editable usage condition and the maximum number of sales of the sales license corresponding to the present edit result are described as the sales condition of the original license. To be more specific: when the number of reproduction times after the edit is three, the licenses up to and including 100 can be sold; when the number of reproduction times after the edit is four, the licenses up to and including 80 can be sold; and the number of reproductions times after the edit is five, the licenses up to and including 60 can be sold. As the edit condition, the range of the editable usage condition, that is, the range of the number of reproduction times, is described to be editable between three times at the minimum and five times at the maximum. Thus, when the SP license management server 214 edits the number of reproduction times of the sales license as four times, for example, the allowed number of sales of the license is up to and including 80. The control unit 2134 of the SP license sales server 213 receives a notification of the sales condition and the edited condition of the generated sales license as shown in FIG. 46 from the sales license generation tool 211. The control unit 2134 of the SP license sales server 213 counts the number of sales every time the present sales license is sold and, when the number reaches the number of sales corresponding to the notified usage condition, terminates the sale of

6

the sales license. It should be noted that, as a sales method of the sales license in this case, the SP license sales server 213 does not sell the license by receiving designation of the number of reproduction times as a usage condition from the end user, but sells a license whose number of reproduction times is uniform (three times, for example). An example has been described here for a case where the service provider 21 selects only one number of content reproduction times from the range shown as the edit condition and sells the end user 31 the sales license up to the number corresponding to the selected reproduction times. However, a sales method like this should be established through a contract between the content provider 11 and the service provider 21, and is not always limited to the example described here. For instance, it should be understood that the SP license management server 214 may sell the sales licenses whose respective allowed numbers of reproduction times are three, four, and five, with their number of sales respectively being up to 100, 80, and 60 which amounts to a total of 240 licenses. Moreover, in this case, the number of reproduction times can be designated by the end user 31 and the sales licenses corresponding to the designated number of reproduction times can be sold. Furthermore, when the number of sales licenses corresponding to the designated number has reached its maximum number of sales, the terminal device of the end user 31 may be informed so and the sales licenses that have not reached their maximum number of sales may be sold.